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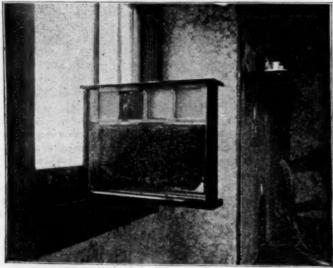


#### An Observation Hive.

The photograph from which the picture herewith is a reproduction, was sent us lately by Mr. Wm. F. Ware, of Cumberland Co., N. J., who said this about it:

"It is a photograph of an observatory hive I have had in my sitting-room window. I kept it there until the hive became too full of bees, and the queen commenced laying in the sections above. By the way, she was hatcht, fertilized, and laid her first eggs in this hive. If any one wishes to learn the habits of bees, let him or her have a hive like this."

From the illustration here given, any one with a few tools and the exercise of a little ingenuity, can make an observation



hive that will answer every purpose. Having it placed as Mr. Ware had it, it would afford an endless amount of bee information and amusement. Especially will it prove of much interest to visiting friends and neighbors, and children having access to such a miniature "show" would become greatly interested in studying the habits and work of the busy bee.

#### The Honey-Flow of 1897-Queens Fighting.

BY G. W. DEMAREE.

The past three years—1894, 1895 and 1896—were failures in apiary work. 1894 gave us the disgusting flow of "honey-dew;" 1895, a small quantity of acidulized honey from the red clovers, and the little sickly white clover that had escaped the summer drouth. I can't be blamed for wondering what those wonderful scientific "upper" and "nether" head-glands were doing that they neglected to "make" good honey out of this sour nectar.

1896 was a year of abundance of rain, but the clovers had disappeared, and there was no honey excepting some fall honey. But 1896 re-instated the white clover in all its glory, and after the cold, wet spring (1897) had killed 75 per cent. of all our bees in northern Kentucky, we had six weeks of the finest and most lavish honey-flow in my experience of 30 years.

On May 20, last, my apiary of 45 colonies was reduced to 15 weak colonies. No one could help them through the cold, wet weather of March, April and May. When the weather turned warm I took charge of the bees, and in the month of June increast them to 36 colonies. Notwithstanding the increase was too late to secure much surplus, my honey crop—comb and the extracted article—was a "surprise to the natives."

The condition of the weather during the period of this unprecedented honey-flow is interesting to the genuine beenan. The weather was amazingly hot, and the atmosphere was loaded with moisture, "awfully sultry." No "cool of the morning," no let-up in the evening, nor any abatement at the "midnight." I sometimes lookt at the bees and wondered if they could survive a temperature of 97° to 98° many days. There was no excitement, the motion of the bees was rather sluggish than otherwise, being loaded down and literally satiated with delicious pink-tinted nectar. There is now a good promise for fall honey for winter supplies.

I was a little surprised to see Dr. Miller's letter on page 466. It would have been much better if Mr. Bankston had simply given his views on the points on which he wrote. This would have accomplish his purpose, and offended nobody. If Mr. Bankston called Dr. Miller a "liar," he accuses several of us in the same way. I have mentioned the fact several times that I have had good, strong queens reared from 3-days'-old larvæ.

When the Cyprian queens were first imported by Mr. Jones, of Canada, Mr. A. I. Root, in compliance with an order from me, sent me by mail a piece of comb about 2 inches square, containing "just hatcht larvæ." This piece of comb was two days in the mail-bags; the larvæ were fully three days old when the prepared colony received the piece of comb.

I got five young queens mated, and they were afterwards the heads of five as strong colonies as I had in my apiary of 40 or 50 colonies of bees. They were mated with Italian drones, and were all extra-good queens. I, on one occasion, made up an artificial swarm by taking combs of brood from several colonies. My purpose was to give them a queen-cell in a few days, but forgot it.

These bees reared a queen that cut the capping of the cell in a little over eight days. The larvæ must have been over four days old at the start. She made a good queen.

But, really, I prefer young larvæ of 1 day old for rearing queens.

Well, now, Dr. Miller ought not to be surprised because some of us were surprised when a teacher in bee-economy of his reputation seriously askt, "Whoever saw laying queens fight?" Twenty years ago I was practicing the profession of the law, and had much spare time in summer, and I spent it experimenting with my bees. I had a miniature show-case covered with glass, to test these matters. Queens always fight sooner or later when caged together. Such is my experience.

A neighbor of mine—a man noted for his knowledge in animal economy—told me that he put two queens under a glass, and the battle was fatal to both. Here is an exceptional case.

Shelby Co., Ky.



#### Some Suggestive Notes for Beginners.

BY R. F. HOLTERMANN.

September, to the provident, brings thoughts of winter, and in the train of that the average bee-keeper, especially the beginner, wonders how he shall winter his bees. In wintering, as in many other lines, the beginner with one or a few more colonies cannot adopt the same system as the advanced bee-keeper. I am now writing particularly of outside wintering. But there are certain conditions in which the colony should be, which applies to all. In districts in which there is no fall flow of honey the bees should be prepared for winter, as far as the condition of the colony is concerned, early in September. Those with the least experience with bees are generally the most spasmodic in the preparation of their bees for winter. If the bees have done well during the past season, they are cared for and every effort made to carry them through for the following season.

On the other hand, if they have given little or no surplus, the bees are pretty well allowed to shift for themselves, with the "root hog or die" principle to the front. No person can succeed in any line of business by such methods, and the sooner the beginners look upon bee-keeping as a business the better. I have been in pretty close touch with bee-keeping for 17 years, and I find that the successful men in bee-keeping are those who pursue an even tenor; they look forward or prepare for a crop each season, and then quietly take matters as they come. If the season has been poor, and the bees have not gathered enough for winter, they buy the granulated sugar and feed. If it has been an exceptionally good season they do not lose their heads and buy up all the bees in the country. These men have the best success.

Then we have those who "let their bees slide" after a poor season; they have had no returns, and will not lay out extra money or labor, until they bring some returns. As a result, most or all of their bees perish, and the empty combs are destroyed by moths, or perhaps sold at a sacrifice. Next season, or perhaps the one following that, bees do better, a neighbor or two makes a little money, and the third season our discouraged bee-keeper screws up his courage to a sticking point, and invests, and the investment is again followed by a bad season. He says it is "my luck," when the fact is, it is

not what he has, but what he lacks or fails to exercise—"common sense"—that leads to trouble.

Then, no matter what the season has been like, keep right on. First see that the colony has a queen; if there are no queen-cells built, and there is brood in all stages down to the egg, you are fairly safe in assuming that the queen is there; but it is better still to see her. It may be that there is not brood in all stages, and particularly may this be the case when there has been no honey-flow after basswood. Then there is no other way than to actually see the queen. In 99 cases out of 100 I known when a colony is queenless before I examine the combs, but this is something which can only be acquired by long and much experience.

Look for the queen, smoke the bees as little as possible, take the combs out quietly, and do not be too long looking them over the first time, otherwise the bees get restless and leave their position on the last combs before you reach them. If the colony is queenless, but has good brood, and is a good, full colony, and you want the bees, you had better get a queen at once. If 50 cents is an item of some importance with you, get an untested queen; a colony queenless for sometime, especially when honey is not coming in, may, and is somewhat likely to, kill the queen. Never put a tested or more expensive queen into such a colony.

Having a good laying queen in the hive, the next consideration is the number of bees. Unless there are bees enough to crowd four Langstroth combs, I would unite it with another weak colony. I shall not here tell you how to do this, but one queen of course must be destroyed, and the remaining one caged. I would not unite fairly strong colonies, or one a little below full strength, with a weak one—especially sound is this advice to a beginner. Where the colony is not full strength, I-would contract it by means of a board so it can fill the space it has.

Next for stores: The weakest colonies require the fullest combs because they will consume about as much as the strong, and they can cover the least amount of comb. Give full combs, or partially-filled combs, in preference to feeding syrup. Give them winter stores as soon after Sept. 10 or 15, as the absence of brood in the majority of the combs will permit taking out the combs with the least honey and replacing them with full ones, or nearly so. Do not divide the stores at each side of the brood-nest, but put the fullest at one side, and so on with the least honey at the other side. Next, with your knife cut a hole in each comb, put it half way between the two side-bars, and almost two-thirds of the distance up from the botttom-bar. These are for winter passages, and allow access through the cluster of bees without passing out of it, as the bees would have to do when passing around the comb, either top, bottom, or sides.

Buckwheat honey is good stores for bees—so is any other honey as far as I know. Honey-dew is not honey at all. The bees sometimes gather it. The flavor is generally rank, and it is dark in color. To have such stored in a hive is generally an exception, and the beginner need not worry lest such a condition should exist without his knowledge. Having a colony in this condition, the beginner, or any one else, has gone a long way towards successful wintering.—Canadian Bee Journal.



#### Some Advantages of the Bee-Space.

BY W. C. GATHRIGHT.

In the article on page 482, the assertion is made that no bee keeper uses the bee-space for any other reason than because it is handy. Put me down for one that finds the beespace very valuable in other respects, besides being the best known arrangement for handling large numbers of bees when time is too valuable to brush and smoke bees off the frame

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tops every time the super is to be put on. I know all about that "sliding" method which works so nicely—on paper.

I assisted in an apiary two years ago, having supers built on the non-bee-space idea. Well, to make a long story short, I will just say I would not accept such supers as a gift.

As before stated, I find the bee-space very valuable in another respect. Out here shade for an apiary is scarce and hard to find, consequently most apiaries are located where the sun strikes them all day, and were it not for the bee-spaces there would be serious trouble with combs melting down. I know this to be a fact. I once put out some hives facing south, and in almost every one the comb next to the wall of the hive on the west side of the hive was melted down.

I then turned the hives with the entrance to the east, and had no further trouble. The space between the end-bars and the end of the hives served almost the same purpose as a double-walled hive.

I want a bee-space even if I never handle a frame. I have 200 colonies, and have no other business, but I don't know it all. I have had an idea that pure air is beneficial to all animals, even to bees, but from Mr. "Common-Sense Bee-Keeping's" argument, one would suppose such is not the case, but would be sure to cause bee-paralysis, spring dwinding, foul brood, etc. So, to avoid disease it seems we must abolish the "detestable bee-space," seal the covers down air tight, and give them a %-inch auger-hole for an entrance, for their warmer breath must not be allowed to escape!

I say that this escaping of warm air from the cluster into the adjoining space is the best thing that can happen, since it allows pure, fresh air to take its place.

It is a pity that this "common-sense bee-keeper" does not give his name, so that we who are so far behind in progressive bee-keeping might inquire. But, hold on, he says we cannot bear it yet. I would like to inquire when he thinks we shall be in condition to receive the great truths which he, and and he alone, can give to poor, benighted bee-keepers, who still hold on to that "detestable bee-space." Will it be in our day and time, or shall it be kept to be revealed to future generations, who will be expected to have the mental capacity to bear it?

It is very easy for one to become partial to some pet scheme, and which sometimes really seems superior, but mainly because one pushes it and gets the best out of it, while the others are supposed to be "detestable," tho they may really be better, consequently they are neglected, and not given

If I am not mistaken, the bee-space was really the most important part of Mr. Langstroth's invention. If so, then it will be sad to learn that he was no benefactor, but foisted on the bee-keeping public a detestable nuisance, which is the main cause directly, or indirectly, of all our bee-diseases. No, I cannot believe that, and it will take more evidence than is now at hand to convince me.

Donna Ana Co., New Mex.



#### Marketing Honey-Some Valuable Hints.

BY J. A. BUCHANAN.

I believe I stated some time ago that I would have a short talk on this subject. It is one that is continually bobbing up. Articles of interest embracing many facts and some theory have been appearing for some time, especially the talks of Mr. R. C. Aikin. It is true, that bee-keepers who produce alfalfa, basswood, and other kinds which soon granulate, will ever have trouble unless a way shall be discovered to prevent candying.

We have handled immense quantities of alfalfa honey, but have given it up on account of its ready disposition to candy. Mr. Aikin's suggestion to put up the honey in small cans of

1, 3, or 5 pound sizes, and retail or wholesale in this way, letting it candy when it may, depending on the printed instructions as a means of information and education whereby the consumer may learn to liquefy his own honey, will do with only a very few people, as I tested this very plan some years ago.

Some four or five years ago I visited grocers in different towns and cities, on the hunt for bargains in honey that had been put up this way which had stuck on their hands, and being candied, it was not wanted, but lookt upon with suspicion by both grocer and buyers. I found in one store several hundred 3-pound cans of candied white clover honey, and bought the lot at 5 cents per can, and the grocer was glad to get it out of the way. This honey was labeled with plain directions for restoring to the liquid form. It is surprising how few persons there are who will read instructions in the management or use of any article.

Some of the worst abuse I ever got in my life came from retailers and customers upon finding the honey I had sold to them had candied, or "gone back to sugar," as they put it, as well as firmly believed. We now handle only such grades of honey as will not candy, or are very slow to do so.

As to the matter of taking up all jars, cans or glasses, and replacing with freshly liquefied stock, I can think of nothing more distasteful than such everlasting foolery and waste of time; not only so, but, worst of all, this reliquefying will soon destroy both color and flavor. I have known several parties who once put their honey on the market in this way. I did so myself, but it's too puttering a business to keep up continuously.

In localities where the honey crop is not large, bee-keepers can find customers for all they produce, with little trouble, and at satisfactory prices; but the case is different where there are great quantities and no good home demand. In this case it appears to me it would be quite as well to wholesale and let it fall into the hands of those who make a business of handling honey by hunting up consumers. By the time this class pays freights, stands all losses, bears all expenses of traveling, taking orders, delivering, etc., he will find, these slow times, that his profits will all be taken at an ordinary bank, if not all, to defray expenses.

Just let every producer do his level best to sell in his home market all he produces, at the best price possible to obtain, going at the business with a determination to sell, and I am sure there will be no very large quantities find their way into the hands of city commission houses.

I have often bought bee-keepers' crops of honey and stept into the towns right around them, and in a few days' work have doubled my money on the purchase, while they all the time claimed there was no use to try any more to sell honey in "such places;" but I'll admit the fact that not all people are salesmen.

Altho we sell large quantities of honey, both comb and extracted, each season, we never sell honey to dealers, but altogether to the consumer, giving them fresh honey, and so good that they will not keep it long enough to candy.

We put up no smaller packages than one dollar's worth, as it does not pay to deliver a less quantity at the close margin at which honey may be sold at these times.

It has always seemed a mystery to me how it comes, that, in nearly every case, we are able to purchase honey of the same quality from commission merchants of the large cities at a less price than we can buy direct from the producer. Perhaps bee-keepers ship to cities in the hope of getting the best prices; but after waiting long and getting anxious for returns, they advise their dealers to close out at once to the best advantage, which is sure to be to any other person's advantage more than that of the owner of the honey.

Now let every one who can find anything like a fair home

market go to work and supply this and keep it up, which plan will be found to give, in the outcome, the best and most permanent satisfactions as well as profit.—Gleanings.

[Editor Root then follows the foregoing article with these paragraphs:—EDITOR.]

I believe I have already said—at all events I will say it now—that Mr. Buchanan has probably sold more honey, in a retail way, and has done more in the way of developing local markets, than any other bee-keeper in the United States. He annually produces large crops of honey, and not only sells his own, but sells for a good many others.

Mr. Buchanan's experience with regard to candied honey, and replacing the same with liquid, will probably not work satisfactorily with him; but Mr. Chalon Fowls, of Ohio, has workt on this plan for years, and considers it profitable.

I was struck particularly with one paragraph where Mr. Buchanan says he has often bought bee-keepers' crops of honey, and sold it right around their homes, and doubled his money, while they (the bee-keepers) had all along claimed that there was no use of trying to sell honey in their markets. Granting that Mr. Buchanan is a natural salesman, and knows the art of selling, this does not explain how he should be able to double on his money, unless, at least, those beekeepers who complain of their home markets have made no effort to develop them. Perhaps they are not read up—or at least have not read the series of valuable articles that have been running in Gleanings and the other bee journals of late. Understand, I do not question Mr. B.'s right to double on his money. It is his privilege and right, if the other fellows won't post up and do something.

Mr. Buchanan calls attention to another significant fact; namely, that in nearly every case he has been able to buy honey of a given quality from commission merchants in the large cites cheaper than he could buy the same honey direct from the producer. This is too true. It can be explained only on the ground that so much honey is sent to the cities that it gluts the markets; and the consequence is, the bee-keeper is glad to get anything if he can only get something. Too often he is deceived by quotations that are above the market. Big promises for immediate returns at glittering figures allure him. Why will not bee-keepers learn to be careful? Ninetenths of the producers know the art of securing honey; but I almost believe that nine-tenths of them do not know the art of selling. Why, we are to-day having the finest qualities of comb and extracted honey offered to us at prices that are ridicuously low. Sometimes we buy and sometimes we do not. We very much dislike to be lugged into the "general swim" with those who are trying to buy closely, at the expense of the hard-working bee-keeper. It is too bad, but need not be if producers would not be so fast to lump their honey off in large lots for the sake of getting a "big pile" all in one lump.



#### A Canadian Report for 1897.

BY A. BOOMER.

I see no late reports from any in Canada, and any report from me would perhaps be of little interest to American readers, but as the editor asks for such I will venture to give mine.

I started the season with 43 colonies, all in fairly good condition, but owing to a wet, cold spring I had to feed some of them, and only regret that I did not feed more. But the profits of bee-keeping are so small that we are tempted to get through with as little expenses as possible.

When swarming commenced, I took no particular means to suppress it, as I had some 60 empty hives and a great quantity of combs that I wanted filled up. When the hot weather of June set in, swarming became very prolific, and two or more swarms would issue together, and of course

unite, and, believing that I would in any case get my hives filled, I did not attempt to divide, but whether there were two or three, I ran them all into one hive, put on a queen-excluder and a case of sections or surplus combs at once, and all went well.

I had fully 100 swarms, sold a couple, used up two or three hives of brood (after swarming) in strengthening weak colonies, and have increast to 102. So nearly all my swarms have been doubled, and are all strong.

White clover yielded abundantly, but basswood only lasted a week, and most of this time was cloudy, wet and cold, so that we have no real linden honey this year.

I will have over 3,000 pounds of extracted, and about 1,000 pounds of comb honey, which, taken with the large increase, is a very satisfactory crop.

White clover is still abundant, and we may get considerable more. During the heaviest flow my bees were unusually cross, so much so as to be discouraging, but on the first day of the opening of the basswood bloom, all became serene and lovely, and I could extract without veil or gloves—a thing I could not previously do without suffering too much.

I do not think I lost more than one small swarm by absconding, and only one swarm left the hive after being hived; that I attributed to the want of shading, as the day was very hot.

I have sold the greater part of my crop, realizing 8 and 12½ cents for extracted and comb, respectively. Some other small bee-keepers who did not want to take their honey out and sell it, sold at home as low as 6 cents. I would not, however, have any trouble in disposing of double the quantity I have, at the prices stated. I think that more money can be made with extracted at 8 cents than with comb honey at 12½, but I have colonies that have produced over 100 pounds of fine comb honey.

I use queen-excluders, and cannot see any difference in the working of the colony with them or without, but it is a great pleasure, when extracting, to have all the combs free from brood, and as a large part or my combs are drone-comb, I could not do without excluders.

I expect to winter 100 colonies, and next season (if they winter successfully) I shall have to adopt some heroic measure to keep down increase, as I have no room for it, nor could I attend to any more.

I was greatly interested in Mr. Edwin Bevins' racy epistle in a late issue of the Bee Journal, and it will be a matter of regret, I am sure, to all the readers of this paper, if he cannot be induced to change his mind and write many more such spicy articles before the lapse of 20 years.

Ontario, Canada, Aug. 16.

[Mr. Boomer, we do not think that Mr. Bevins will succeed in making a Rip Van Winkle of himself. He'll wake up long before he has put in one of his 20 years' snooze.—Ed.]



#### How to Render Small Amounts of Beeswax.

BY MRS. EMMA I. ABBOTT.

Many who have only a few bees and do not own a waxextractor, miss one of the sources of profit in bee-keeping by not saving the odd bits of comb and the old combs that are no longer of any use to the bees. Have a receptacle into which all such may be thrown until the end of the season, or until there is sufficient to make a good-sized cake of wax.

Some day when you have a fire in your cook-stove, and will not have use for the over, tie these pieces of comb up in an old cotton-cloth. Place in the oven a tin or granite iron pan with about an inch of water in it; lay two slender sticks across the pan, and on them the cloth containing the combs, in such a way that it will not dip down into the pan, nor drip

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outside on the bottom of the oven; shut the door and go about your work.

Take a look at it occasionally to see that all is going well. The temperature of the oven should be moderate. If the water boils, it is too hot. Regulate the fire or dampers, or leave the door open a little way. The heat should not be great enough to scorch the sticks or cloth.

When the wax seems to be all dript into the pan, remove the sticks and cloth. If possible, let the fire die out, shut the oven and leave the pan of wax to cool in the oven. This will insure a slow and even cooling of the wax, and will allow the dirt that may have filtered through the cloth to settle into the water in the bottom of the pan. But if the fire is used for other purposes, remove the pan carefully and steadily, cover with a tin pot-cover, a board, or anything that will lie closely over it, but will not touch the wax; then place over all an old blanket or quilt, folded several times, and tuckt closely around the pan, to prevent the heat from escaping too fast.

On this, more than any one thing, depends the quality and appearance of your wax. If it cools too rapidly, the particles of dirt, propolis, and honey will be caught in the mass, giving it a sticky feeling and a mottled appearance. If the surface hardens too quickly, it will crack open as the inside cools.

Do not uncover until the pan is no warmer than your hand. When the cake is thoroughly cooled, it will loosen from the pan easily, but if you attempt to get it out before, even tho the wax seems hardened, you will not only have your trouble for your pains, but you will realize as never before, what it means to "stick as tight as beeswax." Scrape off with a caseknife whatever settlings are on the bottom of the cake, and you should have a clean, clear, smooth cake, that will bring the highest price in the market.

If, for any reason, the wax is not satisfactory, the cake can be broken up, tied in a clean cloth, and put through the same process again.

If it is desired to make small cakes, pour from the pan, while hot, into cups or metal molds and cover closely.

Here are a few don'ts to hang on the walls of your memory when rendering wax:

Don't allow the wax to come in contact with iron, as it will blacken the wax.

Don't grease the molds. It is not necessary, and injures the appearance of the wax.

Don't move the molds before the wax cools. The wax that slops on the sides will harden there and give the cakes a

ragged look on the edges.

Don't let the wax boil. This tends to make it brittle and crumbly.

Don't spill any melted wax on the floor. If you do, you will be sorry.

Don't spend precious time trying to scrape and scour off any wax that may stick to the pan, but take it out-doors, away from the fire, and apply a little gasoline. It acts as a certain brand of pills are said to act on a weak stomach—like

Don't rush off to town and sell your wax to the first bidder. Begin now to watch the market reports. The price of wax fluctuates with the change of seasons, and you can soon learn what time of the year it is highest. Then sell.

These directions are for those who have only a few pounds of wax to be rendered. A large quantity would, of course, have to be handled differently, but for small lots I prefer this method to any I have ever tried.—The Busy Bee.

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The McEyoy Foul Brood Treatment is given in Dr. Howard's pamphiet on "Foul Brood; its Natural History and Rational Treatment." It is the latest publication on the subject, and should be in the hands of every bee-keeper. Price, 25 cents; or clubbed with the Bee Journal for one year—both for \$1.10.

#### Some Things Learned in the Apiary.

BY B. F. LEWIS

I see the Editor's invitation on page 232 to his readers to relate, or rather, contribute their experience that they may have with their bees this season and report what they have learned. To begin with, very few people down here in Mississippi keep bees except in box or gum hives, and about my only way of keeping up with the times is reading the bee-papers, which are very interesting to me.

We winter our bees here on the summer stands, and I think as good a way as any to take care of the combs is to leave them on the hives, and let the bees take care of them. When I run for extracted honey, the hives being 2 stories high, through the winter the queen would almost invariably begin laying in the top-story, and about one week before the honey-flow—which is about the first of May—the upper story would be well filled with brood and honey, and the lower combs would be empty. I then go to work and run the queen down in the lower story, and put a zinc honey-board above her, and set the body with the brood above the zinc honey-board. The queen is then separated from the brood, and has plenty of laying room, and as the brood hatches out above, the bees will fill the combs with honey.

Sometimes it is necessary to put on the third or even the fourth body to give the bees room to store the honey. If I find the queen is crowding the combs in the lower body with brood, I move some of it above, and give her more empty combs. By this means I prevent swarming, and have rousing strong colonies of bees to harvest the honey.

If I want to increase my bees about the end of the honey harvest, I divide them, or, as some term it, "swarm them artificially." I tried the above plan with one hive a few years ago; the next year I tried a few more, and this year I workt quite a lot of them this way. I don't think I ever had a colony swarm that was managed as above, and I have always got more honey from those colonies than any others in my yard.

FASTENING DOWN THE BEE-VEIL.

Another thing I have learned that I like very much, and that is the way I fasten the lower end of my bee-veil to keep the bees out. I found an old spring about my place that lookt like a clock spring. I cut a piece of it off about long enough to go around my neck. So I just put on my bee-hat with the veil on it, and pull down the tail of the veil, then open the spring collar, and let it go around the veil around my neck. The spring holds the veil so close that no bee can get under it; and if I should want to spit, or blow my nose, all I have to do is to catch hold of each end of the spring and lift it off, raise my veil, and spit or blow, as the case may be, and put the spring back. I consider the spring to hold my veil in place a big help, and a great convenience—by far the most convenient way that I have ever tried. All are at liberty to try it, as I claim no patent on it.

AN EXPERIENCE WITH HOFFMAN FRAMES.

The last thing that I shall speak of this time, but by no means the least, is the Hoffman frame. When I began using the improved hives, some six or seven years ago, I bought 41 dovetailed hives. At that time the frames had thin top-bars and comb guide, and we wired the foundation in by putting two diagonal wires running from the center of the bottom-bar of the frame to the upper corners of the frame, then put perpendicular wires about two inches apart across the frame, and fastened the foundation to it. The last two lots of hives that I bought, the Hoffman frames came with them, and I wired and put in the foundation according to the directions, running the wires horizontally. I would draw the wire as tight as it and the wood would bear, then stick the foundation to the top-bar and imbed the wire as directed.

I put them into the hives and hived the bees on them, and

ofttimes when I go to examine a hive, I find some of the foundation had dropt down, and the bees were trying to use it in its piled-up shape. In a great many of the others the wires have sagged, and are loose from the foundation; and I have a lot of crooked combs to be troubled with, or to render into wax. If I get a hive of them built straight, and use them a year or two, when I go to examine the hive the divisionboard is so tightly propolized that I cannot get it out until I remove some of the frames, and the end-bars are so badly stuck together that I have to carry something with me to pry them up, and they are so wide at the top that I cannot see to the bottom, to see if they are straight enough to come through the gap; so I have to risk it, and pull them up. If the combs are perfect, all is well, but if they are a little crooked or bulged, I am almost sure to jag a hole in the honey or board, as the case may be. With the old-style frames that I got in my first purchase, and the manner of wiring in the foundation, I had no such trouble.

So I think I have learned that I want no more Hoffman frames in mine. Perhaps other bee-keepers can manage so that they have no foundation to fall down, and no crooked combs. Those who have to haul their bees to out-apiarles, or carry them in and out of cellars, may prefer them, because they are self-spacing and cannot slip about while hauling or handling the hives. Desoto Co., Miss.

#### Thin Honey-Grading-The Market.

BY JOHN H. MARTIN.

There is the usual factor present this season-thin honey, and in a majority of cases there is but one cause for it, viz.: too great haste in extracting. Sage honey, when thoroughly ripened in the hive, has a thick and heavy body. A saucer full of it can be turned upside down, and it will be slow to leave the saucer. But this, or any other honey, when extracted before the combs are sealed, will, as a rule, be nearly as limpld as water. Such honey also lacks the flavor found in well-ripened honey. It has a raw, pungent taste, and purchasers will not come back for that brand a second time. This honey is also liable to ferment and become sour, resulting in a dead loss to producers.

An excellent rule to follow in extracting honey is never to extract until the combs are filled and capt at least two-thirds of the way down.

Thin honey can be ripened by standing in a large tank for some time, but in this case it never gets the fine flavor that can be secured by thorough ripening in the hive, where the bees know how to do it.

This standing in a tank for a long time in our hot districts, oftentimes results in a discoloration of the honey by too great heat. We know of an instance where a fine quality of water-white honey was changed to an amber by leaving the unprotected cans in the hot sun for several days. The production of a first-class grade of honey cannot be left to the inexperienced bee-keeper; there are too many of the latter class in the field, and their product should be mercilessly turned down.

#### ONE VALUE OF THE EXCHANGE.

Mr. H. E. Wilder, of Riverside county, is the official grader of Exchange honey. In the process of grading, every can is removed from the case and inspected as to grade. Every can is weighed and labeled, and the net weight of the honey markt on the label with the grade, date of inspection, and name of grader. It makes no difference how much the case weighs, the producer gets the actual weight of his honey. The usual tare for cans and cases is 16 pounds. The case varies so much in weight that the producer generally looses from two to three pounds of honey in the tare, for the dealer is sure to put the tare high enough to cover heavy-weight

cases, when many times they weigh less than 15 pounds. Mr. Wilder estimates the saving to the bee-keeper by weighing up separately and giving actual weight at from \$12 to \$15 per car. If bee-keepers would just turn in and make the Exchange strong enough we can arrange to give tare only on the wooden case. The producer should receive pay for the tin can, for it is an article of value after the honey is used.

#### CONDITIONS OF THE HONEY MARKET.

Reports continue to arrive giving advices of an unusual honey-yield in the East, which is uncertain as to the effect upon the price upon California honey. We think if the Eastern yield affects any class it will be the comb honey producers. Comb honey is more extensively produced in the East than extracted honey, and ours will come in direct competition with it. Our comb honey is usually put up in the Western shipping-case, which many times is a rough-looking affair beside the Eastern case, and as the best appearing package sells first, the Eastern producers will have that advantage.

Extracted honey is not so much the product of the East as it is of the West, and we think, owing to the use of extracted honey for manufacturing purposes, that it will hold

One encouraging sign for an advance is the rise in the price of sugar. The leading sweet controls in a great measure all other sweets. Considering the extremely low prices of all other food products, honey is holding its own, and we are confident prices will improve after the heated term, and the fruit season is over. Nearly all honey sold previous to cool weather is moved upon purely speculative purposes. The proper time to sell our product is very much of a problem, well worthy the attention of producers.—Rural Californian.

Los Angeles Co., Calif.



CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL,

(Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.)

#### Feeding for Winter-Introducing Queens in the Fall.

I have a colony of bees which I removed from a box-hive to a 40-frame hive Aug. 14. The colony was 3 years old, and sent out two swarms this season. Supposing I would find considerable honey, to my surprise I did not find more than four or five pounds, and not a large amount of brood, which I placed carefully in the frames of the new hive. There was about a peck of bees which seemed to be mostly young ones. I transferred them in the morning, and going to look at them in the afternoon I found % of them had come out and hung on a limb over the hive. I put them back into the hive, and they seem all right now. I did not find the queen. They do not They do not

- 1. Will they be likely to store enough honey to winter them?
- 2. If not, what should I do?
  3. Would it be wise to introduce an Italian queen this season, or wait until next spring?
  - 4. Why did they not have more honey?

Answers .- 1. Somewhat doubtful, but it depends upon the fall resources of your locality. If buckwheat or other fail flowers are abundant, they may store enough for their winter needs.

2. Feed them. If you have no feeders, use the crock-and-

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plate method. Fill a crock or other vessel one-half full of sugar, then fill up with water, either cold or hot. If you don't wish to feed as much as the crock will hold, you may use any smaller quantity desired, measuring in equal parts of sugar and water. It doesn't matter whether you go by measure or by weight. Now put over your crock two thicknesses of flannel or other woolen cloth, or five or six thicknesses of thin cotton-cloth, such as cheese-cloth, and over this put a plate upside down. Then with one hand under the crock and the other over the plate, turn the whole quickly upside down. Put an empty hive-body over your hive, set the crock and plate on top of the brood-frames, cover tight so no bee can get in except the bees of the hive, and leave the rest to the bees. If you wait till the weather gets too cold, the bees will not take it down.

- 3. If you introduce her this fall, you will be just that much ahead next spring, and your whole force for the honey harvest will about all be of the improved stock.
- 4. Hard to say without knowing more of the circumstances. Perhaps not a great amount of honey had been yielded by the flowers, the bees having only been able to gather a little more than enough for their daily needs. Remember that enough for their daily needs means a good deal when they are rearing a large amount of brood.

#### Removing Surplus Late in the Season.

This is my first season of bee-culture, and while I think fortune has favored my management so far, I have now reacht a point of uncertainty. I have seven colonies—all new swarms—which have been very industrious. They are enjoying the luxuries of the latest hives, and have been perfectly satisfied with their quarters. On July 15 I removed the super from the oldest colony, and the other supers are about filled now. Would it be policy to remove supers are about filed now. Would it be policy to remove supers this late in the season (Aug. 18), if the prospects for honey-gathering were fairly good? Or would these colonies, being new swarms, provide a winter store regardless of the supers? Is it customary to allow supers partially filled to remain on the hive during winter?

NEW MEMBER.

Answer.-It is not too late to remove the supers, and indeed it is the general custom to remove all supers at the close of the honey-flow, whether they are completed or only just begun. It is a good thing perhaps for the bees, to allow supers with their contents to remain on the hive during the winter, but it's a pretty rough thing on the sections. They will be darkened, plastered with propolis, and not very fit for use another year. Probably no up-to-date bee-keeper leaves sections on the hives over winter. If there is room for it in the hive, you may generally count that the bees have enough supplies stored in the brood-chamber, but if your hive has only eight frames it may happen that it is so filled with brood that there is not room enough for honey. In that case you'll have to feed. If two or three of the frames are entirely filled with honey and the rest about half filled, you need not feel anxious.

#### A Beginner's Troubles.

I have 5 colonies of bees-4 swarms and one old colonyand I won't get one pound of honey. This has been a very poor year; the rains seemed to wash the honey out of the white clover, but lately the bees have been gathering some honey. My old colony is not as strong in bees as it was in the spring; the bees come out early, and some fly away, while others fall on the ground, and they jump and seem to be excited. I understand from other bee-men that the wings of an old bee are ragged; all of my sick bees have nice, clean wings, and as near as I can tell are young bees. The peculiar part of it is, if I pick them up and hold them between my hands, they will liven up if nearly dead, and fly away as lively bee. as any

The queen in this colony is not very prolific, and the hive is of an odd size; I have a standard size with nice, straight combs from a colony that lost their queen. How would it do

to put the bees into the standard hive, kill the queen, and replace her with a more prolific one? The queen doesn't rear young as fast as they die. How would it do to make some ginger or pepper tea, and feed it to the bees in some sweetened water or honey? I don't think it is paralysis, as the bees are not black and shiny; they seem to be numb, and get bees are not black and sniny; vac, standards all right when I warm them up in my hands.

Washington.

Answer.-If I understand you correctly, you started with one colony in the spring and have four swarms from it. If that is the case, and all five are in anything like fair condition, it can hardly be said that you have had a very poor season, and after sending out four swarms the old colony ought to be very weak. As the bees revive and fly away lively after being warmed in the hand, it may be only that they are chilled in the cool of the day, and are not diseased.

They probably would not take very kindly to ginger or pepper tea. Catnip is better for them, allowing the bees to gather from the catnip bloom.

Changing hives would hardly help matters any so far as the bees are concerned, but if the queen is at fault a change of queens might be a benefit. But if the colony was greatly weakened by swarming, you cannot expect the queen to do as good work laying as if she were in a strong colony.

#### A Swarm that Swarmed.

Your humble servant is considered to be quite an authority (local) on bees and their habits, but my opinion was askt, and I was compelled to answer I do not know. I will give the circumstances:

On or about May 20, a runaway swarm was hived in a Simplicity hive. About two weeks ago, 30 pounds of surplus honey was taken off, and yesterday (Aug. 12) they cast a large swarm. I made an examination at 7 o'clock, p.m., to find the cause of a swarm being cast in a honey-drouth. I found drones and evidence of queen-cells, and at least two inches of honey sealed in each frame, but few capt brood, and could see no signs of eggs. I shall make further examination in a few days for eggs, etc.

The question was askt me: What was the cause? I never in my 12 years' experience saw, heard, or read of anything like it. Perhaps if the bees were my own I could answer it myself, but I have watcht the colony closely ever since they were hived, and I am at a loss to answer it at present.

NEW JERSEY.

Answer.-When a colony casts a prime swarm, it may cast one or more after-swarms in from one to two weeks later, and as a rule neither the old colony nor any of the swarms will cast a swarm after that time during the same season. Still it may happen that the first swarm of the old colony may become so strong as to throw off a swarm a few weeks later. The chances for a swarm are increast if by any means the queen of the prime swarm is killed. Circumstances point to that in the case you mention. May 20 the swarm was hived, and by the last of July it had become strong in both brood and bees. If nothing had happened to the queen it very likely would not have swarmed. But the queen was killed, and 12 or 15 days later a swarm came off with the oldest of the young queens. By that time there was nothing left in the hive in the way of brood except some sealed brood, whereas if the swarm had come off with the laying queen, there would have been unsealed brood and eggs. A strong colony rearing virgin queens may send forth a swarm when flowers are yielding sparingly, whereas the bees are more prudent about swarming with a laying queen.

The Names and Addresses of all your beefriends, who are not now taking the Bee Journal, are wanted at this office. Send them in, please, when sample copies will be mailed to them. Then you can secure their subscriptions, and earn some of the premiums we are offering. The next few months will be just the time to easily get new subscribers. Try it earnestly, at least.



GEORGE W. YORK,

Editor.

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# United States Bee-Keepers' Union.

Organized to advance the pursuit of Apiculture; to promote the interests of bee-keepers; to protect its members; to prevent the adulteration

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# Editorial Comments.

The California Bee-Keepers' Exchange has handled, during the present season, over \$5,000 worth of supplies for its members, and at a reduced price. At present the Exchange is the only factor that is holding up the price of honey. Every bee-keeper should be found in the Exchange, but such is the perversity of the bee-keeping character that a good cause is seriously handicapt by so many refusing to come in. This is what Secretary J. H. Martin, of the Exchange, said recently in the Rural Californian.

Your Help Wanted.—We believe that we have the friendship and good-will of every one of our readers. Therefore we come to you with this request.

Every reader of the old American Bee Journal knows that we are trying to publish just the very best bee-paper we know how. But if we had twice our present number of subscribers, we could, and would, do ever so much better for you all.

Now, would it be too much to ask that each and every one of our readers send us at least one new subscriber for the last four months of 1897, at the 25-cent, trial-trip rate? We really believe that nearly every one could, with but little effort, send two or three names at that low rate. On page 570 we offer a list of premiums for doing this work. Extra copies to be used as samples can be had for the asking.

We know that our present readers fully understand the true value of the American Bee Journal, and they are the ones that can best speak of its merits, and most easily secure the new subscribers. The only question is, Will they do it? If so, we feel certain that after a four-months' trial, we can

hold the new ones as permanent and regular readers. We can do that if they are at all interested in bee-keeping. Now, we do not ask very much from any one of our present subscribers, but all can see that if each sends in but one new subscriber this month, our list will be doubled by Oct. 1. Then by getting their renewal, and your own, for 1898, we will be in a splendid position to give you the best bee-literature possible. Will you help us do it?

Marketing and the Commission-Man.—
The American Bee-Keeper has quite a good editorial on this subject in its August issue. It reads as follows:

There is one subject that is at present receiving markt attention by our fraternity and the apicultural press, over which there is neither dispute nor contention, viz.: "The commission merchant." The way of the bee-keeper, generally, during the recent unfavorable seasons, has been fraught with anxiety, disappointments and discouragements; but when a fellow has finally "corraled" a crop of honey, only to see it devoured by some disreputable commission firm, the climax is reacht. The enthusiasm which had inspired his diligent work, gives place to a nauseating disgust.

There are but few commission houses that have establisht for themselves a good reputation among bee-keepers, and even those that have in a measure done so, sometimes employ business methods very unsatisfactory to the shipper. Some system by which our product may be distributed throughout the length and breadth of the land, avoiding the present conditions of overstocking the large cities, and placing it before the consumer in a convenient retail package, must necessarily precede any deserved measure of success in the production of honey, especially in the liquid form.

The one very important thing bee-keepers need to look out for now is the high-quotation commission firm. This is nearly always done to get in a lot of shipments of honey, which afterward are sold at a good deal less than the quotations previously given. Of course, then the shipper is dissatisfied—and justly so.

We would indeed be glad if we could say that more than 12 cents per pound can be realized for best comb honey in the Chicago market now, but we can't do it. And there is neither sense nor justice in any firm here quoting a higher price than that just now. It may be that a little later on the price may be a trifle higher, but in view of the fair crop harvested we doubt if it will be any higher.—Still, we hope we are wrong in this view.

Buffalo Convention Notes.—Monday, Aug. 23, found us ready to start for Buffalo—just as soon as Dr. Miller should reach our office to go with us. He came about 1 p.m., and we soon started for the Nickel Plate railroad station, to take the train leaving at 3:05 o'clock.

Arriving, we found there Messrs. Abbott, of Missouri, Bennett, of California, Highbarger, of Illinois, and E Whitcomb and wife, of Nebraska. All, including Dr. Miller and the writer, left at the same time, some in sleeping cars and some in regular coaches.

At Buffalo the next forenoon unfortunately our train was nearly two hours late, so that the convention was begun before our company reacht the main hall of Caton's Business College, corner of Main and Huron streets, where the meeting was held. As we entered the room we were splendidly welcomed by the 125 or more bee-keepers already gathered, and after an introduction by Secretary Mason, we immediately relieved Mr. Holtermann, of Canada, who had been elected to act as chairman until our arrival.

We want to say right here that the low Grand Army rates certainly secured a very representative gathering of beekeepers. They came from Maine to California, and from Florida to Canada. While we had to endure the great crowd of visitors in Buffalo, still we had the real pleasure of meeting many bee-keepers who doubtless would not have been there

had it not been for the reasonable railroad rates assured by meeting at the same time and place as the G. A. R.

Mr. J. F. McIntyre, of California, was there. He was called up before the convention, and just compelled to talk. He has 600 colonies in one apiary, and his yield this year will be about 60 pounds of extracted honey per colony. He answered a number of questions that were "fired" at him while standing before the assemblage.

It was expected to have a very full report of the proceedings, but, somehow, it was impossible to secure an expert shorthand reporter at anything like a reasonable figure, so Secretary Mason requested Mr. Hutchinson to take notes, and write up as good a report as he could. As Mr. Hutchinson writes shorthand a little, no doubt the report will be equal to those he furnisht when he was Secretary of the society.

Mr. Hershiser, of Buffalo, had made the very best arrangements he could to care for the bee-keepers during the great crowding of people there the week of the convention. Of course, no one expected to have every home comfort, and so were not disappointed. The newspapers were too busy with the G. A. R. to look up the bee-convention until we had adjourned; then they put in some very nice notices of our meeting. Hereafter, if ever the bee-keepers tag after the Grand Army again, it might be well to select one of our number to prepare suitable notices for the daily newspapers. There will be no difficulty in getting them printed-the trouble was, the reportorial force was so busy with the G. A. R. doings that they just could not look after our interests also. But as bee-keepers are a modest set of mortals, they do not feel badly if the newspapers fail to bring them into prominence.

We think we are safe in saying that for no previous national meeting of bee-keepers were there any better papers prepared and read. We think our readers will agree with us, when they are permitted to read them. They cover a variety of topics, which were handled in a masteriy way by some of the best workers in the apiarian field.

And then, there were present some of the largest as well as best known bee-keepers in this country. Capt. Hetherington, of New York State, who has 2,000 colonies, was on hand. What a spiendid man he is, too. If only he could be induced to write for the bee-papers, his articles would be eagerly sought for. But he won't write. The only way to get anything good out of him is to stand him up before a convention and pour questions into him. The answers—great big ones, too—follow all right, then. Too bad he can't be kept talking bees at the elbow of a good shorthand writer who could "take down" his large chunks of bee-wisdom.

Then, there is P. H. Elwood. He was on hand—all of him, too. He and Mr. Doolittle would make a great team—both in physical and intellectual weight. Mr. Elwood has about 1,000 colonies, we believe. But he is too awfully awful backward in coming forward in a convention discussion. So we got him to do some committee work, which of course was well done. Mr. Elwood is one of the solid men of the pursuit. Looks and acts like a judge. Would make a good one, too. We had never before met him and Capt. Hetherington, tho we had heard a great many good things about them. We believe every word of it, and only wish we could see and know more of these two great New York bee-keepers.

Was Doolittle there? To be sure; and he just had everything his own way. Might have been elected President had he not felt it necessary to decline, for which we were very sorry. Doolittle has been before the bee-keeping world so long and so constantly—like Dr. Miller—that there is scarcely anything new that we can say about him. Everybody knows him, and all bee-keepers appreciate him for the great good he has done along apiarian lines. He has now 165 colonies, we believe, in two yards. He sometimes feels like giving up all

writing on bees, but we don't believe he will succeed in doing it. Why, he wouldn't be happy if he should lay down his apiarian pen for one week. Don't think of it, Mr. Doolittle. Just keep on in the good way you have traveled so long, and continue to contribute to the happiness and knowledge of those who love the honey-bee.

Next week we will try to give a few more glimpses of the convention.

Publishing Dead Beats.—Editor Abbott, of The Busy Bee, has the following paragraphs on a very timely subject:

The publisher of the American Bee-Keeper says he has about made up his mind to publish a list of the people who deal with them and will not pay their debts. I can see no reason why he should not; for, if a man will not pay a debt which he has contracted, or pay any attention to the man whom he owes when askt as to when he can meet his obligations, he deserves to be publisht. I am not so sure but what a paper owes it to the community to let people know who the "dead beats" are. But, brethren, I can suggest a better method: Adopt the cash system, and let your motto be, "Money, or no goods."

As to the paper, when a man's time is out stop it, and only send it to people who are willing to send for it in advance. The Busy Bee could not publish a very large list of "dead beats," for if there are very many of them in this part of the country, we do not know it, as circumstances compelled us when we began business about 14 years ago in this city to sell for cash only, and you can generally count the people who owe us anything, on the fingers of one hand. From this time on you will not need any fingers at all to count them, as we have fully made up our minds not to fill any order to a consumer which is not accompanied by the cash. I wish all the rest of the dealers in the United States would adopt the same method of doing business.

Debt is the curse of this country, and ruins hundreds of families every year, and the sooner it is wiped out of our method of doing business the better it will be for the poor man. The rich can stand it all right, but it is death to the poor man to owe or to have any one owe him. Let us pay as we go, or not go.

It is surprising the number of people who are perfectly willing to live on others, instead of being men, and paying for what they get. If we should publish a list of those who could pay their subscriptions to the American Bee Journal promptly if they would, and yet don't do it, it would be a surprise to a great many people. We believe it would be a good plan to let the world know just who the folks are who are willing to be clast among the "dead beats"—It would save others from losing on them, and perhaps might in some cases spur the "beats" up a little. We could show up a beautiful list of apparently honest people, who, after getting the Bee Journal for several years "on trust," refuse to pay up, or even to give any reason for not paying for what they have had.

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"The Richest College in America" has its story most interestingly set forth by word and picture in the September number of Demorest's Magazine. It will be a distinct surprise to know that this title is not due any of our best known colleges, but is held by one which is doing a great work in a quiet way. The account of it will be attractive to every man and woman interested in American educational life. "The Meaning of Greater New York" is the title of another article, which is its own explanation. It is intended to answer all those questions about the consolidation of New York and Brooklyn which people with intelligent curiosity are always asking their friends, and which their friends are rarely able to answer.

White Comb Honey Wanted.—We wish to correspond with those having best white comb honey for sale. Please state quantity, how put up, and lowest price. Address, George W. York & Co., 118 Michigan Street, Chicago, Ill.

# The Weekly Budget.

MR. J. C. HICKS, of Marshall Co., Ky., writing us Aug. 31, said: "We are having an enormous crop of aster and golden-rod honey now."

MR. FRANK MCNAY, of Wisconsin, gave us a short call last week. He reports only a fair crop of honey this year in his State, the basswood having been almost an entire failure.

MR. LEROY HIGHBARGER, of Ogle Co., was elected President of the Northern Illinois Bee-Keepers' Association at its annual meeting in Freeport last month; S. H. Herrick, Vice-President; B. Kennedy, Secretary; and O. J. Cummings, Treasurer. Next week we will publish a short report of the proceedings.

MR. J. H. MARTIN-Gleanings' California Rambler-completed his continued story, entitled, "Bee-Keeper Fred Anderson; or the Mystery of Crystal Mountain," in the issue for Aug. 15. We understand it was very interesting as well as mysterious. We did not have time to read it, but are willing to accept the verdict of others as to its readableness.

MR. LUCIAN C. JACKSON, 273 Pennsylvania St., Buffalo, N. Y., is the photographer who "took" the convention group. He can furnish the photographs by mail at 35 cents each. He also has a number of different views of the G. A. R. arches and the "Living Shield"-composed of 1,000 children drest in red, white and blue-at the same price as the bee-convention picture, we presume. This latter photograph is very good indeed.

MR. L. A. HAMMOND, of Washington Co., Md., sent us last week a bushel of the very finest peaches. We don't get anything so luscious in the peach line in this Western country. We wish to thank Mr. Hammond for his kindness and generosity. Mrs. York was greatly pleased with them, for, like some other people, she "knows a good thing when she sees it "-especially in the line of fruits. And Maryland peaches-um, um!

MR. C. P. DADANT, of Chas. Dadant & Son, in Hancock Co., Ill., dropt in to see us Monday, Aug. 23, when on his way home from accompanying his aged father to his annual retreat in Wisconsin, to escape the hay-fever affliction. Mr. Dadant reported a good season both as to their honey crop and the comb foundation business. He regretted not being able to take in the Buffalo convention, but it was impossible

MR. M. H. MENDLESON, of Ventura county, Calif., "recently lost about three tons of honey through a defective faucet in a honey-tank. This amount of sweetness made quite a respectable stream down the canyon. But Mr. M. is not dead broke by the loss, for he has over 50 tons left. We would suggest that these honey faucets be provided with a small padlock as a safeguard against accidental opening. The writer knows of an instance where a dog, by rubbing around the faucet of a honey-tank, lifted the lever, and run off the contents, which, in this case, was water, valuable of course, but not so valuable as honey." So writes J. H. Martin, in August Rural Californian.

EDITOR W. Z. HUTCHINSON, of the Bee-Keepers' Review. has been called upon to pass through the deep waters of affliction since the Buffalo convention. For about two years his good wife and a daughter, named Ivy, have been suffering with mental derangements, necessitating their staying at a sanitarian for treatment a part of the time. But on Saturday,

Aug. 28, both being at home, the mother must have been seized with a severe attack, for she chloroformed to her death the youngest child-Fern-who was five years old, and also attempted to take the life of Ivy by shooting Altho in a dangerous condition, it was thought, Aug. 30, that Ivy would recover, but the funeral of little Fern was held that day. Mrs. Hutchinson was again taken to the sanitarian the day before.

We know that the tenderest sympathies of bee-keepers everywhere will be extended, with ours, to our brother editor in his great sorrows. Those of us who have not had to pass through like afflictions visited upon him the past few years, can hardly realize what Mr. Hutchinson has had to endure, and is enduring now. May sweet Hope, the ever-brightening angel in all our human affairs, be near him, and lead him safely through the well-nigh overwhelming distresses which just now surround him.

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1 Pound White Clover seed	25c.
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The Horse-How to Break and Handle.	200
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Thomas G. Newman.—It contains the parliamentary law and rules of order for Bee-Conventions—also Constitution and By-Laws, with subjects for discussion, etc. Cloth, gold-lettered. Price, 25 cts.

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# General Items.

#### Best Season for Years.

This has been the best honey season for years, and bees are in splendid condition. I will get nearly 1500 pounds of nice section honey from 36 colonies, spring count; and increast to 76. My bees were in very poor condition in the spring.

W. S. FERRACE W. S. FEEBACK.

Nicholas Co., Ky., Aug. 30.

#### A Glorious Honey Season.

We have had a glorious honey season this time, and the end is not yet. It is very dry at present. If we should have a good rain in 10 days, we will get the finest honey from now until frost, from a boneset relative. We have but little white clover here.

J. C. Hicks.

Calloway Co., Ky., Aug. 21.

#### Bees in an Abnormal Condition.

My bees were very busy the past They stored some honey in the supers, against my wishes, and against their will, because they were obliged to do so on account of the brood-cham-ber being nearly all filled with brood, and the honey-flow may be past after it is hatcht out, thus leaving them without much winter stores. Some colonies are still swarming. I never saw my bees in such an abnormal condition as they are and have been nearly all summer.

C. THEILMANN.

Wabasha Co., Minn., Aug. 31.

#### About Half a Crop.

The honey-flow in this section is very light, amounting to but about half a crop. Basswood did not yield, and on that we place our main reliance. Sweet clover made a poor yield, while white clover did remarkably well; in fact, better than for many years. We look for a fair yield from fall flowers, having had good rains. We have had but one swarm this year.

Don't forget the Trans-Mississippi International Exposition in 1898, to be held at Omaha. There will be a mag-niticent display of honey and bee appli-Douglas Co., Nebr., Aug. 26.

#### Crooked Commission Men-Results.

I have been a shipper of small fruit and honey for the past 16 years, and thought the only way to convert our honey into cash was to clean it up in fine shape, and ship to Chicago; and I would still be a shipper to that market, but Horrie, about two years changed the whole business. I be I became so disgusted with all commission men then, that I resolved to try the oft-advised plan of being my own salesman. advised plan of being my own salesman. So last year I purchast a heavy spring wagon, loaded it up, and struck out. I arrived in Kalamazoo at 7 p.m. As I drove into the feed barn the attendant said, "What have you that is so heavy in the wagon?" "Honey," I replied. "Holy cats," says he; "you will never sell that load in this town!" I said with some mistrust, "Wait and see."

After taking breakfast, I struck out interview those that I thought



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A sample of either honey will be mailed to an intending purchaser, for 8 cents, to cover postage, packing, etc. We guarantee purity.

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I have clipped 19 queens, and must say the Monette Queen-Clipping Device is by far the best invention ever made, and will be welcome to many beek keepers as it was to me. I could not do without one now.

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might purchase. Some said, "Yes, if it is straight and fine." Others said, "Bring it around." The consequence was I sold the entire load at from 14 to 15 cents, and three different parties wanted the entire lot. I unloaded over 1.000 pounds of honey inside of one hour from the time my team left the feed barn, and got my cash for all.

That day's work opened my eyes, you may be sure. I want to say right here that C. R. Horrie & Co. opened my eyes wide, but it cost me about \$75. This wide, but it cost me about \$75. This bought experience is lasting. A burnt child'dreads the fire, and I have no use for commission men, altho I have shipt tons yearly to Chicago commission men, last season excepted. I appreciate what the American Bee Journal has had to say in the past regarding the ring of socalled commission house robbers and thieves. They have become rich off the Michigan fruit-men and others. But Michigan fruit-men and others. But not by a 10 per cent. commission. They have every advantage of us shippers, and they don't fail to take it.

CHARLES WALKER.

Allegan Co., Mich.

#### Bees Did Fairly Well.

My bees have done fairly well this season. I barvested 1,650 pounds of honey from 32 colonies, and increast to 52. My honey is nice, all clover and linden. I have a good home market, and sell it for 14 cents a pound. I have sold 600 pounds. Some are selling honey here for 12 cents, and some are selling sugar syrup, which they fed to their hear for 15 cents. I semiled send to their bees, for 15 cents. I sampled some the other day for a man who said he had bought some "honey." He thought it was sour—a very poor quality of sugar, surely.

G. I. WOLF.

Cass Co., Ind., Aug. 28.

#### Wants to be Immortalized.

Querist No. 58 wants the bee fraternity queens in confinement. Now I want to immortalize myself, as Dr. Brown says, by letting the cat out of the bag, and here is the secret:

Just build a bee-proof fence one-half mile high, five miles each way from the apiary, with a dome top. Have a door apiary, with a dome top. Have a door in the southwest corner; have a fast horse, get on him, and with a black-snake whip get right after the inferior drones and make them flee for their lives to the gate. Place a sign over the gate reading, "No prolific worker drones need apply, as the yellow maidens inside prefer gentlemen drones of their own color." And they must have a pedigree that will designate that they are "just over." they are "just over."

Dewitt Co., Ill. G. POINDEXTER.

#### Did Moderately Well-Freaks.

Bees have done moderately well in this locality. There was much swarming. White clover yielded honey about two weeks at the last of the blooming period. Bees did not work on it at first. No honey is coming in at present-too Strawberry bloom was workt by the bees. This season I found a queen alive and perfect in a cell, wrong end foremost. She must have grown in the cell reverst because it was tightly sealed when I cut it open. I introduced her successfully and afterward found her

# Cash Beeswax

Becswax delivered to our office till further notice, we will pay 25 cents per pound, CASH; or 28 cents for whatever part is exchanged for the Bee Journal, Honey, Books or Seed, that we offer. If you want **cash**, **promptly**, for your Beeswax, send it on at once. Impure wax not taken at any price. Address as follows, very plainly,

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30 miles northwest of Chicago, in 9 frame Lang-troth hives. Rees in good condition. Only a ew color ies. Prices—\$5.6 or 10 colonies at 5. colonies, at \$1.75 each; or 10 colonies at \$1.50 each,

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Untes ed, 50c; Tested, 75c. Sufe arrival guaranteed. Address,

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Made by the A. I. Root Co., at their prices, Becawax Wanted.

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That will keep Hen's Egys perfectly through warm weather, just as good as frish ones for cooking and frosting. One man paid 10 cents a dez n for the eggs he preserved, and then late sold them for 25 cents a dez-n. You can preserve them for about 1 cent wer dozen. Now is the time to do it, while eggs are cheap,

Address for Circular giving further infor-Dr. A. B. MASON,

3512 Monroe Street, . Tolepo, Ohio, Please mention Bee Journal when writing,

laying worker-eggs. I also found a drone reared in a queen-cell. I have before me, while I write, both the drone and the cell from which I liberated him, and in which he was without a doubt reared. I think I did well on freaks, even if my honey crop is light.

I commenced the season with 80 colonies, and increast to 105, besides losing 20 or more swarms, which partly ac-counts for the lightness of my honey crop. I work for comb honey. I expect to join the New Union shortly.

ALVIN L. HEIM.

Warrick Co., Ind., Aug. 24.

#### Bees Not Doing Well.

My wife says we cannot keep bees without the Bee Journal. The bees are not doing very well in this locality this year, or at least I hear nobody boasting about what their bees are doing, myself included.

J. W. HUBBELL.

Clark Co., Wis., Aug. 31.

#### Good Season for Honey and Business.

We have had a good season's trade; in fact, we were unable to keep up with orders for our automatic honey extract-We have had an excellent honey season so far, and are pushing sales in our home market with splendid success. The prospects for a fall crop of honey were very flattering till the last week or ten days it has been extremely dry and dusty, with no prospect of rain.

VAN ALLEN & WILLIAMS.

Crawford Co., Wis., Aug. 24.

#### The Wisconsin Honey Crop.

The Buffalo convention came too early for us, as our bees are not only storing honey (4 to 6 pounds each day), but are swarming daily, rather more than at any time during the season.

The honey crop in some locations in the southern part of the State has been uncommonly good, but I don't think it will average as large throughout the State as past seasons. I don't think we will secure more than one carload, altho our number of colonies is a little larger than last season, when we secured two carloads. White clover does not make up for the loss of basswood in most locations.

FRANK MCNAY.

Columbia Co., Wis., Aug. 24.

#### Did But Fairly Well.

Bees in this locality have done but fairly well. The spring was rather cold, also the forepart of summer. The bees did not gather any honey from basswood, and but little from white clover too wet. They did fairly well on Alsike, aud very well on buckwheat, golden rod and asters. My bees have filled the first set of supers, and are now filling the second. Some of my neighbors' bees have swarmed to excess, while mine have swarmed but little. I think they have swarmed but little. I think they will average 50 pounds of comb honey to the colony, spring count. Bees are just bringing in the honey to-day by the cartload. I think there will be more or less nectar gathered until frost kills the wild flowers, of which there is an abundance.

Long live the American Bee Journal and its editor. Clark Co., Wis., Aug. 24. L. ALLEN.

# THE "NOVELTY" POCKET-KNIFE



Your Name on the Knife.—When ordering, be sure to say just what Name and Address you wish put on the Knife.

The Novelty Knife is indeed a novelty. The novelty lies in the handle. It is made beautifully of Indestructible celluloid, which is as transparent as glass. Underneath the celluloid, on one -ide of the handle is placed an American Bee Journal reminder, and on the other side, no me and residence of the Subscriber.

The maverial entering into this celebrated knife is of the very best quality; the blades are handlorged out of the very finest English razor-st-el, and we warrant every blade. The holsters are made of German silver, and will never rust or corrode. The rivets are handened German silver wire: the finings are plate bross; the back springs of Sheffield spring steel, and the finish of handle as described above. It will last a lifetime, with proper usage.

Why purchase the Novelty Knife? In case a good knife is lost, the chances are the owner will never recover it; but if the Novelty is lost, having name and address of owner, the finder will return it; otherwise to try to destroy the name and address, would destroy the knife. If traveling, and you meet with a serious accident, and are so fortunate as to have one of the Novelties, your pocket knife will serve as as an identifier; and in case of death, your relatives will at once be apprised of the accident.

How appropriate this knife is for a Christmas. New Year or birthday present! What more lasting memento could a mother give to a son, a wife to a husband, a sister to a brother, a lady to a gentleman, or vice versa, a son to a mother, a husband to a wife, a brother to a sister or a gentleman to a ladv—the knife having the name of the recipient on one side?

The accommanying cut gives a faint idea, but cannot fully convey an exact representation of this beautiful knife, as the "Novelty" must be seen to be appreciated.

How to Get this Valuable Knife.—We send it postpaid, for \$1., or give it as a Premium to the one sending us three new Subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL (with \$3.00), and we will also send to each new name a copy of the Premium Edition of the book "Rees and Hone" "We club the Novelty Knife with the BEE JOURNAL for one year, both for \$1.90

Any Name and Address Put on the Knife.

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#### Convention Notices.

Minnesota.—The third annual meeting of the Sou hern Monesota Bee-Keepers' Associ-ation wid be held in Winona, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 15 and 19. 1897, opening at 9 o'clock, a.m., each day. A.1 are coronally invited to come and bring their friends. Winona, Minn. E. C. CORNWELL, Sec.

Wisconsin.—The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association will hold his annual convention at Boscobel. Oc ober 6 and 7. 1897. All the leading apharian subjects of the day will be thoroughly discust, and a general good time is expected. All are cordinally invite the come and bring their friends. Caramine, Wis. F. L. MURRAY, Sec.

See the premium offers on page 570!

# KLONDIKE

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# HONEY and BEESWAX

#### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 1.—Fancy white 12c.; No. 1 10 to 11c.; many amber, 9c.; No. 1, 7 to 8c; fancy dark, 7 to 8c.; No. 1, 7c. Bx-tracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 3½c. Beeswax, 26 to 27c.

There is a little honey selling now, and with this mouth sales ought to increase. It is also a good time to ship comb, as wax is atrong, and resists jars in transit.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 10.—Fancy white. 13c.; No. 1. 11 to 12c.; Isncy amber. 10 to 11c.; No. 1. 9 to 10c; fancy dark, 8 to 9c.; No. 1. 7 to 8c. Extracted, white, 5 to 5½c; amber, 4 to 4½c.: dark, 3½ to 4c. Beeswax. 25c.

25c.
There is very little demand for honey this ho weather, but will improve with cooler

8t. Louis, Mo., Aug. 9.—Fancy white, 12 to 12½c; No. 1, 11 to 11½c; fancy amber. 10 to 10½c; No. 1, 9 to 9½c fancy dark, 8 to 8½c; No. 1, 5 to 7c. Extracted, white, 5 to 5½c; amber, 4 to 4½c; dark, 3½ to 4c. Beeswax, 24 to 24½c.

Wax, 24 to 24%.

The weather so far this season has been too warm for the free movement of honey, but with the present prices on sugar we think there should be a good demand for extracted honey at the above pices. One car of 24,000 pounds sold since our last quotation on basis of above prices. Berswax finds ready sale at 24c. or prime, while choice stock brings a little more.

San Prancisco, Calif., Sept. 1. — White comb. 1-lbs., 7 to 9c; amber comb. 4 to 6c. Extracted. white, 4½ to 4½.; light amber. 3½ to 4c.; da k tule, 2½c. Beeswax, fair to choice 2 i to 25c.

choice 24 to 25c.

There is a moderate amount of business doing in extracted on export account at fairly steady figures, quotations remaining unchanged. C.mb is meeting with small custom for local use. Arrivals for the season to date front up about 2,000 cases, as against 1,000 cases for some time in 1896. Shipments aggregate 1,600 cases, as against 200 cases a year ago.

Cleveland, Chio, Aug. 31,—Fancy white, 13c.; No. 1, 12c.; fancy amber. 8 o 9c.; fancy dark, 6 to 7c. Extracted, white, 6½ to 7c.; amber. 5 to 5½c.

Fancy white is in demand, but very little is coming in.

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 3.—Fancy white, 13½ to 14c.; No 1. 12c. Extracted, white, 6c.; amb r, 4 to 5c.; dark, 4c. Beeswax, 24c.

No arrivals of dark or amber honey yet to any eate t. Reports from all parts show large yields of honey in the East.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 9.—Fancy white. 11 to 13c.; No. 1, 10 to 11c.; No. 1 amber, 7 to 10c. Extracted, white. 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 3½ to 1c. Beeswax, 20 to 25c.

Demand is fairs of ar for best qualities of comb honey. We have hardly ever yet, at this time of the year, disposed of as much honey as we did this season. Arrivals have been liberal so far.

Albany, N. Y., July 31, -Fancy white, 11@ 12c.; fancy amber, 7@8c.; fancy dark, 6@8c.; white, extract d. 5c; dark, 4c.

But very little is doing in honey this month. There is a small stock of inferior comb honey on the market, and quite a little extracted. Bees are said to be doing nicely in this sec-

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 1.—Fancy white, 11 to 12s; No. 1, 9 to 10c., fancy amber. 8 to 9 c.; No. 1, 7 t. 8c.; fancy dark, 6 to 7c.; No. 1 5 6c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber. 4 to 4½c.; dark, 3½ to 4c. Bee-wax, 22 to .6c. Honev is selling just a little better, but we advise moderate shipments till October and November, when liberal amounts can be sold.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 2.—Fancy white, 12 to 13c.; No. 1, 11 to 12c; fancy amber, 8 to 10c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 4 to 4c. Beeswax, 25 to 27c.

The receipts of new comb honey begin to arrive, and of very nice quality. There is danger of not allowing it to cure before shipping. The demand is only moderate, but equal to former seasons, as while fruit is plenty honey is not wanted so much. Later there must be improved demand.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 1. — Fanoy white, 11 to 13c.: No. 1, 10 to 11c.; fancy amber, 9 to 10c.; No. 1, 8 to 9c; fancy dark, 8 to 9c.; No. 1 dark, 6 to 7c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c. Beeswax, 23 to 25c.

Only strictly fancy stock wanted in this parket. Market is firm but sales are slow.

Detroit, Mi h., Aug. 31—Fancy white, 11 to 12c.; No. 1 white, 10—11c. Extracted, white, 54 to 64c. Beeswax, 25 to 26c.
No dark honey is yet offered. There is a steady demand for fancy white. Extracted is of good quality.

New York, N. Y., S.p., 1.—Fancy white, 12c.; No, 1. 11c.; fancy amber, 10c.; No, 1, 9, Extracted, white, 5 to 5½c.; amber, 4½ to 4½c. Beeswax, 2tc.

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 1.—Fancy white, 1) to 13c.; No 1.9 to 10c. Extracted, white. 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c. Beeswax, 25c.

In an experience of eight years I have never before s en the demand so good for comb housy as it is just now. Consumers claim that honey is better this year than usual. Extracted honey is selling slowly.

Boston. Mass., Sept 1.—Fancy white. 12 to 13c; No. 1, 12c; tancy amber. 10 to 11c. Extracted. white, 6% to 7c.; amber, 6 to 6% Berswax, 27c.

Honey is now being received in small lots and meeting a fair demand at above prices. Demand will naturally increase with cooler weather, and with the short Eastern crop, it should clean up in good shape.

#### List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers.

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

Chicago, Ills. R. A. BURNETT & Co.. 163 South Water Street.

New York, N. Y. HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELMEN. 120 & 122 W. Broadway.

Kansas City, Mo. C. C. Clemoms & Co., 423 Wainut St.

Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

Cleveland, Ohio.

A. B. WILLIAMS & Co., 80 & 82 Broadway.

St. Louis, Mo. WESTCOTT COM. Co., 213 Market St

Minneapolis, Minn.

S. H. HALL & CO.

Milwaukee, Wis.

А. V. ВІВНОР & СО.

Boston, Mass

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE , 57 Chatham Street.

Detroit, Mich. M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Wayne Co., Mich.

Indianapolis, Ind.

WALTER S. POUDER, 163 Mass .chusetts ave.

Albany, N. Y. CHAS. MCCULLOCH & Co., 380 Broadway.

Cincinnati, Ohio. C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central Avs.

Rec-Keepers' Photograph.—We have now on hand a limited number of excellent photographs of prominent bee-keepers—a number of pictures on one card. The likeness of 49 of them are shown on one of the photographs, and 121 on the other. We will send them, postpaid, for 30 cts, a card, mailing from the 121 kind first; then after they are all gone, we will send the 49 kind. So those who order first will get the most "faces" for their money. Send orders to the Bee Journal office.

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By W. E Forest, M. D., 12th Edition, Revised, Illustrated, and Enlarged. This is the greatest and best work ever publisht as a Home Physician, and as

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It makes the way from Weakness to Strength so plain that only those who are past recovery (the very few) need to be sick, and the well who will follow its teachings cannot be sick. It is now in many families the only counsellor in matters of health, saving the need of calling a physician and all expenses for medicines, as it teaches Hygiene and the use of Nature's remedies, not at drag treatment. treatment.

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are considered, and there is not a curable are considered, and there is not a curable disease that has not been helpt by some of the "New Methods" given here; even those who have been pronounced Consumptive have been entirely cured. While for Rheumatism. Indigestion. Dyspepsia, Constipation, Dysemiary, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Catarrh, Emaciation, General Debility, Nervous Exhuustion, Diseases Peculiar to Women, etc., the methods are sure, and can be carried out at one's own home and with little or no expense.

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is illustrated with a number of Anatomical plates from the best English work on Anatomy publisht, and others made expressly for this work; contains 300 pages, printed on fine calendered paper, and although the price of the first edition (much smaller in size and without illustrations) was \$2.50, we sell this at \$1.00, postpaid.

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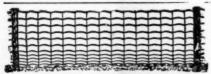
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For a limited time we wish to make our readers a special offer on booklets on Bees. Poultry. Health, etc. Upon receipt of 75 cents we will mail any 6 of the list below; and for \$1.25 we will mail the whole dozen.

	Foul Brood, by Dr. Howard	
2.	Poultry for Market and Profit	2ac
3.	Turkeys for Market and Profit	25c
4.	Our Ponitry Doctor	30c
5.	Capons and Caponiz ng	30c
6.	Hand-Rook of Health, by Dr. Foote	25c
7	Kendall's Horse-Book	25c
8.	Rural Life	250
9.	Ropp's Commercial Calculator	25c
	Foul Brood, by Kohnke	
11.	Silo and Slage, by Prof Cook	2ñe
12.	Bienen-Kultur, by Newman	40e

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1000 pounds of White Clover Comb Honey.
Price, 11 cts. per pound
600 lbs. White Clover Honey at 7c, per pound. Edw. E. Smith, Carpenter, Ili.

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